

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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## MODERN CAVEMEN EXPLORING THE UNDERWORLD OF A MOUNTAIN

**T**HE deepest underground chasm in the world has been discovered. Surprisingly, it was not so very far from us—under a mountain in south-east France. It lay there unknown until recent times, but has now been thoroughly explored.

The leader of the men who plumbed the depths and scaled the heights of this the deepest known cave, Pierre Chevalier, has written a book which has just been published in English: *Subterranean Climbers* (Faber, 16s).

Vast cave systems stretching thousands of feet into the earth are among the few untrodden regions still left in the world. Most of us love exploring caves, but we generally have the

comforting assurance that the passages are well known. We are not likely to get lost.

But how tremendous would be the thrill if we, like Pierre Chevalier and his companions, could be the first human beings to break into an unknown underworld!

Then our cave might suddenly end in an abyss whose mysterious depths are hidden in the shadows cast by the electric lamp in our cap. We estimate its depth by dropping stones, and we drive a spike into the rock at our feet, hang a string of rope ladders on it, and down we go.

Landing, perhaps, on a ledge above a dark pool, we find another passage leading off at right angles, into which we can just crawl. Wriggling along this on our stomachs, we hear rushing water ahead, and emerge into a magnificent cavern down which pours a waterfall.

### Beside a waterfall

Our comrades haul more rope ladders through that tiny crevice, and down again we go beside the waterfall—while always at the back of our minds is the thought of the return journey.

Thus did the tough young French explorers, dangling on rope ladders, crawling, climbing, map the fantastic maze of underground cliffs, tunnels, rivers, pools which honeycomb the mountain called the Dent de Crolles, north of Grenoble.

Pierre Chevalier, a chemist in private life, spent a thousand hours of his spare time during twelve years in this ghostly region of weird grottoes, and discovered that it was all a huge chasm, 2157 feet deep.

Danger always went with him and his companions. Once a spike gave and a man on the rope ladder fell with it. He lived, but getting him up and out of the caves was a nightmare in which ingenuity won.

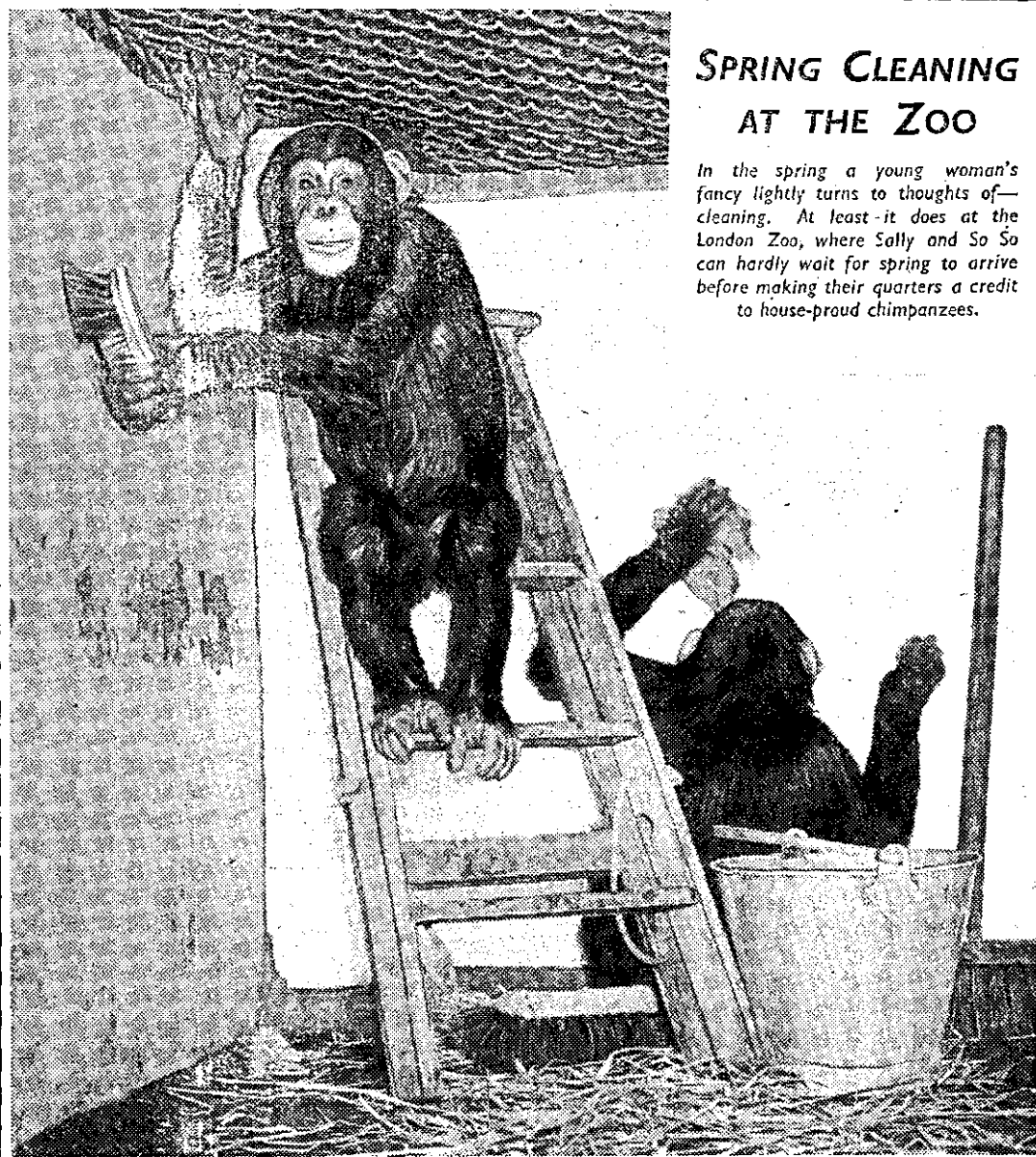
### Without sleep

Bruises and cuts they collected at every turn; often they were soaked to the skin in cold cave rivers and waterfalls. Frequently they would abandon sleep to go on exploring, and would emerge at last on the desolate mountain-side, battered, exhausted, frozen to the marrow.

Yet always they would be drawn back to this fascinating hidden world.

Strange were the sights they came upon—glittering stalagmites looking like beautiful but grotesque mushrooms; smaller, blunted stalagmites like a crowd of huddled little figures stretch-

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## SPRING CLEANING AT THE ZOO

In the spring a young woman's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of—cleaning. At least it does at the London Zoo, where Sally and So So can hardly wait for spring to arrive before making their quarters a credit to house-proud chimpanzees.

## THORNY PROBLEM

**B**ECAUSE porcupines were killing the trees, Colchester County Council, Nova Scotia, offered a bounty of four shillings for the snout of each dead porcupine sent in. In a year 35,000 bounties were paid out, and still the applications poured in.

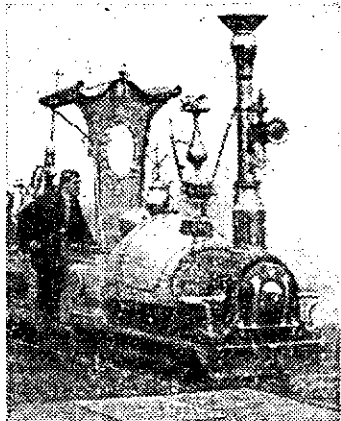
When the authorities began an investigation it was found that some of the snouts were really porcupine footpads. Bounty hunters had punched holes in the footpads to make them look like nostrils and had then glued whiskers on to complete the fake.

The bounty has now been stopped.

## TALLY HO!

**B**US conductors at Rabat, French Morocco, are to be supplied with trumpets. Hitherto they have used whistles to attract the attention of the driver when stopping or starting, but these have so often been mistaken for police whistles that the change is being made to prevent policemen being misled.

## FT & OR ENGINE



Ematt's famous drawing of Nellie, the legendary locomotive of the Far Twitting and Oysterperch Railway, has been "brought to life" by a Stockport firm. Nellie will haul passengers in the Festival Gardens at Battersea Park, London.

## HAS THE MONSTER MIGRATED?

**T**HE Loch Ness Monster apparently has its counterpart in South Africa. Dr Hans Sauer, in his recent book *Ex Africa* has placed on record certain facts concerning it; but much of the evidence is inconclusive, and it would seem that the habits of the monster are as elusive in South Africa as in Scotland.

One of the stories recounted by Dr Sauer recalls how some years ago Mr O. K. Atherstone, who farms near Piet Retret, in the Eastern Transvaal, was called to the River Ingwempisi by some native children, who said they had been frightened by a great snake.

Mr Atherstone hurried down to the river with his rifle. He

described what he saw as "a black snake-like head, and the coils of a body as thick as a man's waist."

He made for the nearest village and notified the police, who set up a continuous watch on the river. But all that they had to report was a disturbance in the water "as though a charge of dynamite had been exploded under the surface."

Another eye-witness account comes from Mr Fred Cornell who with several companions was camping 20 miles below the Aughrabies Falls. One of his companions was bathing in a quiet part of the river when he shouted to Cornell in terror.

Then they saw a huge snake-like monster surge past. It pounced on a calf which with other cattle was grazing on the river bank, and disappeared.

It is a fact that the python, largest of South African snakes, likes water and is found in the neighbourhood of streams. It has been known to reach a length of more than 25 feet, and develops an enormous girth. So perhaps the "monster" does come within the realms of possibility after all.

## From the darkness of the ocean

**T**HE Danish deep-sea expedition aboard the *Galathea*, which set out from Copenhagen last October, has reached waters near Madagascar in the first stages of a two-year world cruise.

With the help of photo-electric cells which they lower into the depths, the scientists have made investigations into the light conditions deep down in the oceans, conditions which are of vital importance for vegetation, and have a great effect on the biology of marine animals.

The expedition has already fished with a trawl-net in a depth of over three miles—a depth never before been explored for animal life.

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# Canada's growing part in world affairs

**TWO** recent news items have stressed the very significant fact that Canada has attained so strong a position in her economic development that she now takes a dominant part in world affairs.

First, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer recently gave a special word of thanks to Canada for the £450,000,000 credit granted us in 1946 to tide us over our dollar shortage. He announced that we had used all but approximately £23,000,000, and had decided not to avail ourselves of this sum.

Who would have said, a generation ago, that Canada would be in the position of a creditor nation to the Mother Country?

Secondly, it has been announced that Canada has offered nearly £9,000,000 towards the first year's cost of the Colombo Plan to develop South and South-East Asia, provided other contributing countries make appropriate allocations.

## Natural wealth

From those two facts alone we may gauge how rapid has been the growth of the great Dominion in the economic field and in financial stability since the last of the territorial leases was surrendered to the Crown by the Hudson's Bay Company less than a century ago.

The key to Canada's success is the wealth of her natural resources, and the fact that her vast territory can still absorb in useful employment hundreds of thousands of immigrants, in addition to her own 14 million citizens, without disturbing the economic equilibrium.

Since the end of the war nearly 377,000 persons have entered Canada, including more than 163,000 from Britain. Yet the Canadian Government is still asking for more, and has recently announced a plan under which selected immigrants from Britain and Europe for specified employment will receive advances on a recoverable basis towards their passage to Canada.

## Great industries

The oldest British Dominion can now boast a great range of industries besides her all-important agriculture. In fact, as regards supplies of nickel and other non-ferrous metals Canada is today the chief source in the free world.

There are excellent prospects, too, for the oilfields of Alberta and the iron ore resources in Labrador. To develop the former an oil pipeline is under construction from Edmonton to the Great Lakes port of Superior. The first section of this 1150-mile pipeline is already in operation and the final section is scheduled for use by the end of this summer.

There is, too, the projected St Lawrence Seaway. When completed this will link the 1000-mile system of the Great Lakes with the 1000-mile waterway of the St Lawrence River to create perhaps the most important ocean-inland transportation system in the world.

Nor has Canada's progress been confined to the sphere of economics. In the political field she has taken her full share of responsibilities. Units of her Navy and Air Force are already attached to United Nations forces in Korea, and a special army

brigade is serving with other U N land units.

Britain has long enjoyed the benefits of air training for R A F personnel in Canada, and similar facilities are now being offered to other North Atlantic Treaty countries.

From these facts alone we can realise the increasing importance of this great Dominion as a member of the British Commonwealth and of the world community of free nations.

## Cavemen

Continued from page 1

ing away into the shadows of a passage, cascades gleaming in the artificial light; lofty halls like a cathedral nave where clouds of moths were disturbed by their flashing torches.

Another surprise was the skeleton of a cave bear, which had lain there for thousands of years. Its bones were crumbling, but one of the party took a tooth as a souvenir and put it in his tobacco pouch.

Later he found that the tooth had disappeared. It had crumbled to dust in his pouch, and he had smoked it with the rest of his tobacco!

The skeleton of a kid led them to discover the way out of the caves to the plateau on the mountain top—and thus to establish this cave system as the deepest in the world. For the kid was not ancient, like the bear, and it had fallen into the caves through a crevice in the plateau.

A guide they often sought was, oddly enough, a draught—one of the air currents running through this great labyrinth from crevices in the mountainside. By following a draught they could find where to break through from one cave to another.

Pierre Chevalier has mapped the main part of the Dent de Crolles system, and here it all is with drawings, photographs, and statistics in his book. But unexplored passages still remain.

In other parts of the world, too, lie lofty caverns and hidden rivers and lakes awaiting their first beams from the cave-explorer's lamp.

## MAN OF SWONA

A SCOTSMAN of 82, James Rosie, has passed away after spending all his life on the tiny island of Swona in the South Orkneys. Now only his two sons and a daughter are left on this storm-swept island, which is only 1½ miles long and ¼ mile wide, and lies in one of the racing currents of the Pentland Firth.

On this bleak rock James Rosie made his living by farming, using oxen for ploughing. He also caught lobsters, and during the summer would sail once a week with his catch to John O' Groats, eight miles away.

The nearest island is South Ronaldsay, about three miles distant, and the Swona people's only means of communication with it during gales is by signalling in Morse with a lamp. Thus did they send the news of the old islander's death.



By the C N Press Gallery Correspondent

EASTER is early this year. But did you know that an Act of Parliament on the Statute Book since 1928 "fixes" Easter Sunday as the day following the second Saturday in April?

Lord Merthyr has explained why this is not the law. Under a sub-section of the Act a draft Order in Council must be laid before both Houses. So far none has been laid.

The Churches are opposed to a "fixed" Easter. But Lord Merthyr makes a point that not many of us have ever thought about. Business firms make up their accounts to the end of March or April 5. This year, therefore, two Easters will fall into one year's accounts, on which the effect of an extra Bank Holiday might be depressing.

MR CHURCHILL's jujube (he lost it, remember, when it rolled on to his shirt front) and Miss Irene Ward's hat—which three Hon Gentlemen used so that they could raise a point of order during a division—have passed into Parliamentary history.

More will be heard about the hats. In the Victorian Parliaments all MPs wore "toppers" even in the chamber. And when they went out to vote they left them on the benches.

During a division, of course, most members are walking about. So in order to be seen by the Speaker a member who wished to make a protest (a point of order) while it was going on had to be conspicuous. So he sat down and put on his hat—"seated and covered."

Now very few MPs, except women members, wear hats in the chamber. By tradition, of course, one remaining "City" member—a Conservative—sits on the Government (Treasury) front bench wearing his topper after the State opening of Parliament.

A BOY of eleven was to have given a bee-handling demonstration at the famous Three Towns Show (Hornchurch, Romford, Dagenham) which takes place every August. To do so he had to wear a hat with a veil.

But (says Mr Geoffrey Bing, MP for Hornchurch) there are dangers in giving such a demonstration on Sundays. Under old Sabbatarian laws an "artist" may sing, but may not wear any make-up.

To ensure that no common informer would "sneak" on the show, the organisers had to decide either to abandon the demonstration or let the boy handle the bees without his veil and hat.

Alas! Mr Bing did not say what happened. But many MPs had some stinging things to say about common informers.

HISTORY is always cropping up in the Commons. One MP had pointed out that in all history there has been a trend of empires towards the West.

This alarmed Mr Seymour Cocks, MP for Broxtowe. "We, pursuing this inevitable course," he said, shuddering, "will

Continued at foot of next column

## NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

### MEMORY!

Mrs Ann Parish, of Walworth, London, celebrated her 106th birthday by reciting a poem learned from her father over a century ago.

France's contribution to Australia's Jubilee celebrations is to be a two-month tour by a French Rugby football team. The players are expected in Australia late in May.

Scotland Yard authorities are fitting two-way transmitters and receivers to motor-cycles used by the mobile branch of the Metropolitan Police.

It was a case of "water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink" when a plough smashed the village main at Little Snoring, Norfolk.



Four-year-old Anthony Wynbourne of Finchley, Middlesex, was the youngest of 40 artists under 16 who won prizes in a Television Children's Hour competition for a Festival of Britain poster.

### Good films

The British Film Academy has awarded its prize for the best British film for 1950 to *The Blue Lamp*. The award for the best film from any source went to the American production *All About Eve*.

During the annual "Spring-clean" of the Queen Elizabeth at Southampton 4000 gallons of paint were used.

More than 1000 delegates will attend a United Conference of Christian Youth at Bangor, North Wales, August 24-31.

A retired Lisbon policeman recently recorded his 100th blood donation.

The Zoological Society is financing an expedition to Assam to find a mate for Mohan, a young rhinoceros at Whipsnade.

Minnie, the former sea cat of the *Queen Elizabeth*, has been adopted by Mrs Irving, of Shirley, Southampton, whose husband before his retirement was Master-at-Arms on this liner.

### Parliament—continued

eventually wind up in Hollywood. That does not fill me with any optimism."

And Mr Leslie Hale (Oldham) had a curious thing to say about the British king who has been blamed for losing the American Colonies.

"I am certain," he said, "no one would wish to pass any reflection on the breadth of wisdom, knowledge, and learning of King George the Third. If my memory is correct, 1781 was just before he was insane."

### THAT'S CRICKET!

English cricketers, mostly connected with the Surrey club, are providing cricket gear for poor boys in British Guiana and Barbados.

The French Government have awarded silver and bronze medals to twelve members of the Kent Fire Brigade who voluntarily gave their services in the fight against the disastrous forest fires in the Landes district of France in August 1949.

During the Boy Scout Festival Camp at Gilwell Park, Chingford, in August—to which more than 30 countries are sending contingents—it is hoped to stage a game between the best eleven Senior Scout footballers and an Arsenal team.

Examples of embroidery from the 14th century to the present day will be shown at an exhibition of historic needlework to be held at St James's Palace for five weeks from April 12. The exhibits will include the Coronation robes of the King and Queen.

### Bright pupil

After two years at evening classes Miss Hannah Johns, of Leominster, Massachusetts, aged 91, has received her High School diploma.

Mr A. V. St Germain, of the Fairchild Guided Missiles section of the United States Navy, has designed a space-ship to take two men to the Moon and return them safely to Earth. Production of the craft has not yet begun.

The Ministry of Transport have rejected a proposal by Bury St Edmunds Road Safety Committee to put a life-size dummy of a boy at the approach to schools.

The Cake and Biscuit Alliance is perturbed because biscuit tins are rapidly disappearing through the public habit of buying them for storing cakes, or as waste-paper receptacles.

### REPRIEVE

It is good news that Mr Pickwick's hotel in the City of London, the *George and Vulture*, is not to be closed after all, but is to continue as a restaurant.

The British Government have confirmed Australia's title to Heard Island in the sub-Antarctic (now occupied by the Australian Antarctic Research Expedition) and the adjacent Macdonald Islands.

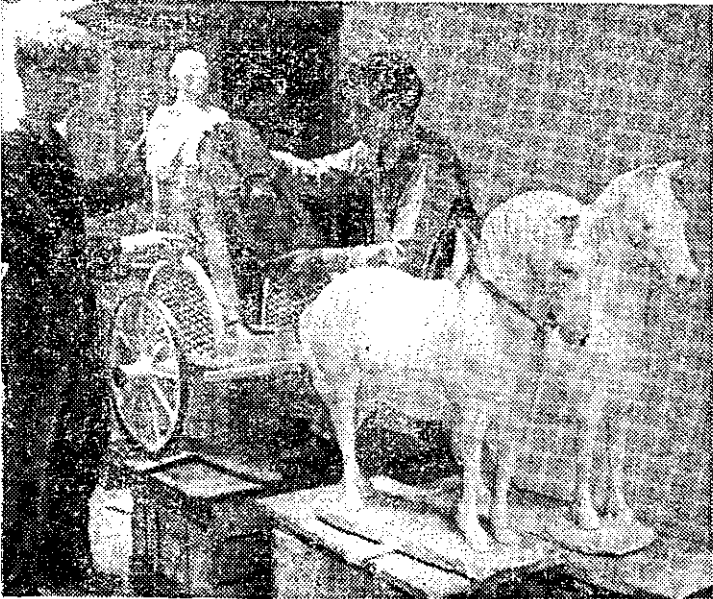
The 1st Oulton Broad Senior Sea Scouts have acquired the 40 ton steam drifter *Dick Whittington* for £10 and are themselves converting it into their headquarters, with sleeping accommodation for 13 boys.

The Revd John Scott Lidgett, the Grand Old Man of Methodism, is preaching a series of Sunday sermons at Mostyn Road Methodist church, Brixton, where he began his ministry 60 years ago.

### Beet record

Sugar-beet production in Britain reached the record average figure of 12.81 tons per acre last season. The yield of sugar was 700,000 tons, 200,000 tons more than the previous season. To have imported this quantity of sugar would have cost at least £23,570,000 at present prices.





### Symbol of the Iron Age

George Fullard and Ernest Adsetts, 24-year-old sculptors from Sheffield, are seen in their Chelsea studio with the plaster and bronze Iron Age Group which they have made for display during the Festival of Britain.

### MONKS MAKE GOOD FARMERS

ONE Belgian and nine Chinese Trappist monks who escaped from Communist China have become part of the community at the monastery of Notre Dame de la Prairie, St Norbert, Manitoba.

Like their Canadian brothers, they tackle any job offering in the busy community of which they are now part. Fathers Victor and Simeon, for instance, work happily with electrical equipment in the mechanical shops.

They all display keen interest in the prize herd of 300 or more Holstein cattle kept on the monastery farm, which each year win top awards at agricultural shows across Canada and even across the border in the United States.

Their monastery life presents a strange contrast between medieval and modern life. In farming however, the 1600-acre farm is strictly modern in methods and machinery.

### HELP!

WHEN a Maidstone Corporation refuse car caught fire the driver started-up his engine and drove straight to the fire station to have the blaze put out.

### NOWHERE IS ON THE MAP

BELIEVE it or not, Nowhere does exist! In fact, there are two Nowheres in Norfolk.

One is part of the small town of Acle, a Broadland centre 11 miles east from Norwich on the main road to Great Yarmouth. At one time it was a hamlet on its own.

The other Nowhere is to be found some miles north-west from the capital, close to the small market town of Reepham. It consists of one corner of the parish of Great Witchingham in which there is one tiny cottage surrounded by a field and paddock.

This cottage is the home of Mr and Mrs W. Gladman and their four children. Nowhere it may be, but they are happy enough and would not move anywhere else!

### BIBLE FOR THE MONGOLS

ON the little island of Laan Tao, an hour's sail from Hong Kong, four men are living in complete isolation while they revise the translation of the New Testament in the Mongolian language so as to make it more attractive to modern readers.

Three of the men are Mongolians, and the other is an American missionary. Their hope is that when the revision is printed it can be distributed among Mongolians, even though no missionary may cross the frontiers of that forbidden land.

### SHEEP AT THE SHOPS

THREE hundred West Australian sheep going to market recently in double decker cattle trucks, had a final fling at Fremantle.

The trucks in which they were travelling were derailed and overturned at midnight; and when the sheep were released they made off into the town to do a little window gazing as a pleasant change from the bush.

Some paid a particular visit to the wool trader's store where fleeces—quite possibly their own—were recently sold for something like £1 per pound.

However, with the aid of motor cars, they were all safely returned to fresh trucks in the early hours of the morning and continued on their way to market, arriving on time.

### HIS REWARD

A TEN-YEAR-OLD Pakistani boy, Asaf Siddiqi, noticed a book in a Karachi shop bearing a library stamp showing that it was the property of the Mincola High School, USA. Convinced that the book had not reached Karachi by honest means, the boy spoke to the shopkeeper, obtained possession of the book, and posted it back to the American school.

To his surprise and delight, he has received not only a letter of thanks from the principal of the school, but also a big parcel of books, tinned fruit, and other good things.

### BBC TESTS VHF

A £250,000 experiment being carried out by BBC engineers at Wrotham Hill, Kent, may revolutionise British broadcasting. Its purpose is to test the new system of very high frequency broadcasting (VHF) on short waves.

For seven months there have been regular transmissions on six days a week, and these will be continued for another five months. The transmissions are received by a number of selected "secret listeners," equipped with new type receivers. Most of them are members of the BBC staff.

On the basis of these tests the BBC will decide, in conjunction with the radio industry, whether to adopt the new system or not. Such a change, if decided upon, would be gradual, and there would be parallel broadcasts along with the present system.

Wrotham, which transmits at 25 kilowatts, is the most powerful VHF station in the world, and is equipped entirely with British-made instruments.

### ALL ABOUT THE WEATHER

MANY people talk with an air of authority about the weather, yet know few facts concerning it; but now scientific knowledge, gleaned by the Meteorological Office, is available for all in a newly-published booklet—Your Weather Service (Stationery Office, 1s).

This bright booklet banishes many pet fancies. It tells us, for example, that we need no longer fear rain on St Swithin's Day; the records show that there is no truth in the legend.

Some people have a notion that our climate is changing, but the records of some 100 years do not support this belief.

We learn that the extreme north of the country is not necessarily always colder than the south, Cambridge being a colder place in winter than Lerwick in the Shetlands; and also that Manchester is not a particularly wet place, as its critics assert, for Plymouth, Cardiff, and Glasgow are all wetter.

In non-technical language Your Weather Service gives much interesting information about methods of collecting weather reports; and we are told how anyone, for a small fee, can obtain a forecast for a district or town—useful for organisers of sports, and so on.

### OLD BISCUIT

THE Museum at King's Lynn, Norfolk, has been presented with a ship's biscuit 120 years old.

Originally it was a keepsake, given by a sailor to his sweetheart. Later they married, and the biscuit was handed down from generation to generation as an heirloom.

### LAST CRAFTSMAN GIVES LESSONS

WHEN it was decided recently to put the Brigade of Guards into full-dress uniform again, the contract for the wicker frames on which the bearskin hats are built was given to a London firm.

Then it was discovered that the only man who knows how to make them retired from the firm last year, after 56 years' service. Now two girls from the firm are being taught at his Enfield home the art of making wicker frames for bearskin hats.

### GOOD TIME IN DELHI

ASIATICS have the reputation of not being very good time-keepers. But the Indian Government has recently taken steps to make sure that Delhi people have no excuse for being late. It has had distributed throughout the city 900 electric clocks operated from a central control in the Secretariat. A master clock controls them and transmits impulses every half-minute to the 900. More than 100 of the clocks are in the Parliament building.

### BATTLE ON A SIGNPOST

A TOWN sign which is to be erected at the entrance to historic Southwold, on the Suffolk coast, will portray an incident in the Battle of Southwold Bay, 1672.

This conflict was fought by the combined English and French fleets against the naval might of Holland. It is generally considered to have been indecisive. Coastal erosion has long since caused the disappearance of the bay where this great encounter took place, watched by hundreds of excited citizens.

The sign shows the *Naseby*, commanded by the Duke of York, later James the Second, attacking the *Zeven Provinciën* flying the flag of the famous Dutch admiral, de Ruyter.



### Camping in the Snow

The winter-sport season has ended in other parts of Europe, but in Sweden it continues until the end of April or well into May. Winter camping has become a favourite pastime among the hardy young Swedes, and on these expeditions their "igloo" snow-huts and other gear are transported on sledges which have shafts attached to a waist belt, thus leaving the skier unencumbered and with both hands free. Up to 80 pounds can be packed on such sledges.

### AS IN 1865

A SOCIETY has been formed to preserve a little railway in Wales, which may be the oldest narrow-gauge railway using steam engines and carrying passengers. It runs for seven miles from Towy to Abergynolwyn in Merionethshire, and the same engines and coaches are running on it as when it was founded in 1865.

It is also one of the few independent railway companies left, but last year its General Manager and only shareholder, Sir Hadyn Jones, died, and at present the train service is continuing on a non-profit basis.

The aim of the Talyllyn Railway Preservation Society is to keep this historic line going as an example of what railways were like in the old days, raising money and recruiting workers to repair the track and maintain engines and rolling stock.

In a recent letter to *The Times* Mr L. T. C. Rolt appealed for support, which should surely be as readily forthcoming as holiday-makers to ride on this quaint old railway.

More information can be obtained from the Society's treasurer, 36 Waterloo Street, Birmingham.

### ALL CHANGE WAS THE NET RESULT

SOME 5000 fish, including pike and rudd, recently changed their home when anglers with nets fished the moat at Rushbrooke Hall, an uninhabited Elizabethan mansion, near Bury St Edmunds.

When the catch was complete all the fish were transferred to the Little Ouse at Lakenheath, a few miles away.

### COLD SHOULDER FOR THE LAMB

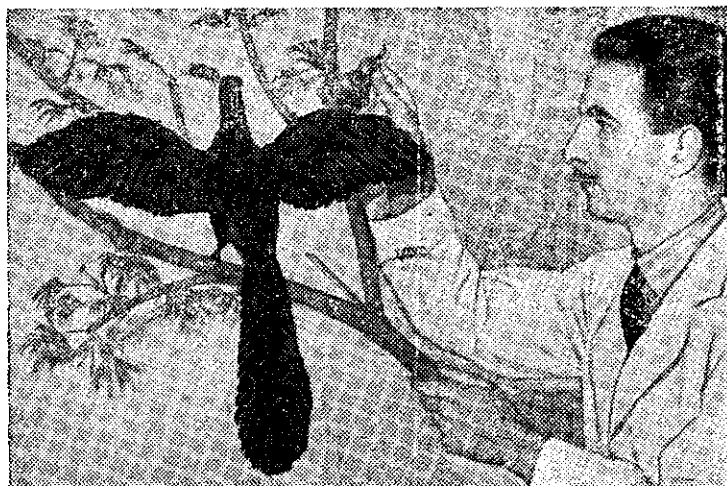
At the Children's Corner of the London Zoo Valentine tries to be friendly with Confucius, who is distinctly "sit-offish."

A duck with a name like Confucius just cannot afford to speak to any Tom, Dick, or Valentine; and another thing, the juvenile either wants a wash, or else is the disreputable member of the family. Valentine is one of twin black lambs born on Valentine's Day.





## 120,000,000-year-old bird made in London



Mr Arthur Hayward with his reconstruction of the Archaeopteryx at the Natural History Museum

MR ARTHUR G. HAYWARD, chief taxidermist at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, and ex-pilot of Bomber Command, has made the ancestor of all birds.

It is a model of the Archaeopteryx, and he has made it, feather by feather, from the plumage of five types of British birds, working from exact measurements of the only known fossil remains.

The bird—"Archie" to students who are sketching it—is the centre-piece of a new exhibit at the Museum showing the evolution of the modern bird from its prehistoric ancestor, and also the mechanism of flight.

Everything so far deduced about the way of flight of Archaeopteryx, known to exist in Europe some 120 million years ago, was taken into account, and Mr Hayward worked in close consultation with Dr W. E. Swinton of the Natural History Museum, an authority on fossil reptiles.

Careful study was made of the only two fossil remains of the bird. Both were found in

Bavaria, and one of the original fossils is in the Museum.

In an interview Mr Hayward told us that he built his model on a wire skeleton exactly the size of the fossil remains, and a balsa wood body, for lightness, which he covered with a layer of wax applied with a brush.

"I used pigeon feathers to build up the underdown and part of the body," he said, "and cormorant feathers for the centre coverts. The wing coverts were a blackbird's wing feathers, and I used willow grouse feathers for the tail. The small head I made up from pheasant feathers and the two rows of tiny teeth are bent pins.

"The feathers came from London, Scotland, and the West of England. The eyes were made in Warwickshire, and they took me four hours to fix in.

"Archaeopteryx is really the first airborne reptile—a kind of missing link between reptile and true bird."

A request has already been received from the United States for a similar model.

## PORTRAIT OF A VEGETARIAN



THIS ungainly creature, the Edmontosaurus, which trod the plains of Canada some 80 million years ago, is slowly taking shape again at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington.

Its remains were discovered in Alberta, and were sent in crates to the museum, and now Dr Swinton and his assistants at the museum are still patiently removing its bones from chunks of rock. Eventually they will assemble the bones on wire, when it will be 30 feet long.

The picture is of a model showing what it looked like in its prime, when it weighed about as much as two double-decker buses. In spite of its grim appearance Edmontosaurus was a vegetarian.

## REPRESENTING YORKSHIRE

TWELVE girls from the Wakefield High School for Girls, forming what is probably Yorkshire's smallest orchestra, will be heard at the musical festival to be held in London this summer as part of the Festival of Britain celebrations.

Selected to represent Yorkshire, they will be competing with other school and college orches-

tras, some of them three or four times as large.

As a rule the Wakefield High School orchestra plays 13 strong, but 17-year-old Coral Taylor will be absent sitting for her Higher School "Cert." Both she and the remaining 12 are confident of acquitting themselves satisfactorily in their respective spheres.

## NEW LIFE FOR THE OLD SCHOOL

A GRAMMAR school at which the famous Dr Johnson tried to get a job is to be re-opened as a primary school. It is Appleby Magna Grammar School, Leicestershire, built by Sir Christopher Wren in 1697, and believed to be the only school designed by him.

It was a grammar school until 1904, when it had only eight boys left. Then it was turned into an elementary school, but in the 'thirties it was closed down altogether.

Now, to this fine three-storeyed house of red brick, which is in a wonderful state of preservation, 80 pupils are to come from another school to bring it to life again.

### Job for Dr Johnson

When Dr Johnson was a struggling writer, often not knowing whence his next meal was to come, he applied for the mastership of this school. The £60 a year offered seemed riches to him. But it was necessary that he should first obtain a degree of Master of Arts, and as a young man Johnson had not been able to afford to stay at Oxford long enough to get a degree.

One of his friends wrote to Dean Swift begging him to persuade Dublin University to confer a degree on this scholarly writer, Johnson, saying that Johnson was not afraid of the strictest examination though he was afraid of the long journey to Ireland; but would venture if necessary, choosing to die upon the road rather than be starved to death in translating for booksellers.

Fortunately Dr Johnson's degree was not forthcoming, and the giant of 18th-century literature was saved from a life of comfortable obscurity.

## Pleasure from poetry

MOST of us love a good song, but how many of us get the same pleasure from poetry reading? Yet poetry, like music, has both movement and rhythm, and can give lots of real enjoyment.

That is what the Poetry Society plans to make it in a series of programmes called Poetry Song-Time, to be held at 33 Portman Square, London. Each of these programmes, the first of which will take place about the middle of March, will help people to see things with their ears as well as with their eyes—such things as the sea and ships; birds and beasts; people and places; dancing and ballet; sport, games and toys; circuses, clowns and pantomimes, fun and humour, and much else besides.

A committee experienced in framing programmes of this sort will launch the first meeting, and it is hoped that as the session extends young people will take a more and more active part in the organisation. Young members of the Poetry Society are, for instance, soon to have their own quarterly magazine to be called the *Voice of Youth*.

The success of Poetry Song-Time will depend very largely on the co-operation of the audiences who, it is hoped, will help by singing, making strange noises or whatever the occasion demands.

## He was godfather to America

THE Ninth of March is an important date in the annals of exploration, being the 500th anniversary of the birth of Amerigo Vespucci who may be called the godfather of the vast continent to which his Christian name was given.

A native of Florence, Amerigo Vespucci served the great Medici family as a clerk, but afterwards moved to Spain, where he began overseas trading on his own account. Three times, he says, he sailed to the land newly-discovered by Columbus.

His dates and the distances he records are difficult to follow. One reckoning makes it appear that he reached the Pacific, that he penetrated into the Antarctic, and reached a position only 13 degrees from the South Pole. Old-time explorers were apt to err, and equally apt to mingle romance with fact.

Amerigo's adventures, described by him in letters to his old employers, have been doubted and debated for centuries, but in 1937 another of his letters (making the total four) was discovered at Florence, and was regarded as confirmation of the others. It concerned his third and most important voyage to the New World.

The evidence seems finally clear that Amerigo sighted the mainland of South America on June 16, 1497, which was six weeks before Columbus cleared the islands and himself saw it. Columbus died believing that he had stumbled upon a south-eastern extension of Asia, with Cuba forming part of it; he thought the islands that he

named the West Indies were islands off the coast of India and the people Indians, names that still survive.

Amerigo realised that it was a New World, as he called it.

An account of his voyages and their result reached Martin Waldseemüller, a professor of geography at a French university; and it was he who said that as this newly-found fourth of the world had been discovered by Amerigo Vespucci it should be given his Christian name.

Amerigo died in February 1512, leaving his record and claims for scholars to debate through the centuries.

The fame of a man wanes and memory fades; but it is interesting to recall that in 1839 a "Madame Amerigo Vespucci" petitioned Congress for a "corner of land" in the continent which, she said, her ancestor had discovered. With complete absence of imagination, Congress replied that "no public service had been alleged by the petitioner," and rejected her thrilling appeal.



Amerigo Vespucci

## FROM CLYDE TO HEBRIDES

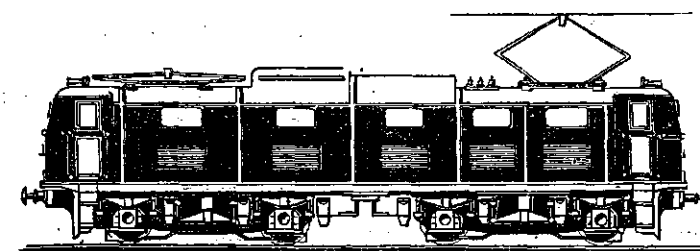
THE firm of David McBrayne Ltd, whose red-and-black funnelled ships are familiar to visitors on the Clyde, along the west coast of Scotland, and in the Hebrides, has just celebrated its centenary.

Much progress has been made in that 100 years of sea service. In 1877 the firm introduced the famous paddle steamer *Columbia*, whose graceful lines, in the opinion of many of our shipbuilders, have never been ex-

celled. This ship was also unique in that she carried the first floating post office established in the British Isles.

The firm were also pioneers in the use of the ship's repeating telegraph, the steam steering gear, and the gyro-compass. In 1907 the McBrayne steamer *Scout* was the first motor passenger vessel put into service, and the *Cavalier* was the first ship on the Clyde to be lit by electricity.

## BRITISH RAILWAY ENGINES 4. Electric



THE power which drives electric locomotives is generated at stations situated perhaps miles away from the railway itself. It is conveyed through the grid of the Electricity Board—those wires carried on pylons seen dotted about all over the country.

The railway takes in its supply either by means of an overhead cable system or a third rail fixed on the track outside the two running rails.

The locomotive collects this current, in the case of the overhead system, through a "pantograph," a spring frame attached to the roof which is always pressing against the overhead cable carrying the current. This is shown in the picture. In the case

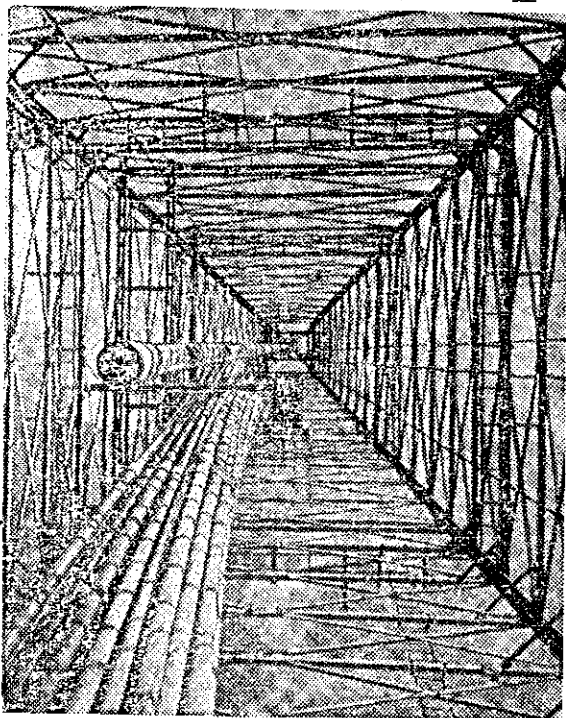
of the third rail system, a shoe attached to the locomotive slides along it, collecting the current as it does so.

In both cases this passes to electric motors, carried underneath the locomotive, which are geared to the axles and so drive the wheels.

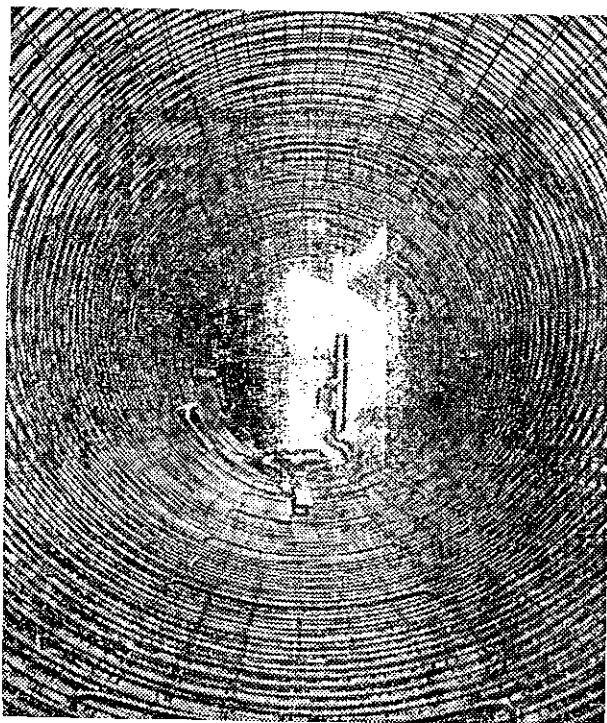
An interesting feature of all electric engines is a device known by the grim name of "Dead Man's Handle." This is a spring in the driver's control handle which, if he should suddenly be taken ill or meet with a mishap, automatically cuts off the current immediately his grip on the handle is relaxed and so brings the train to a standstill. It is a wonderful safety-device.



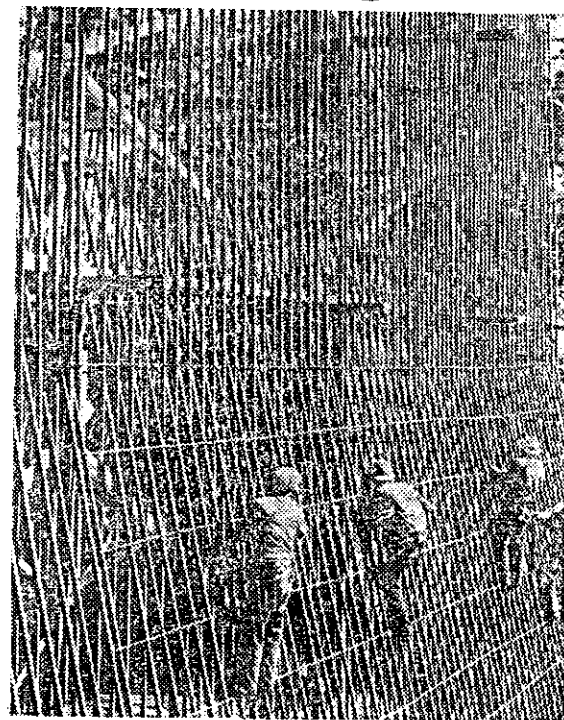
# Strange pattern of our scientific age



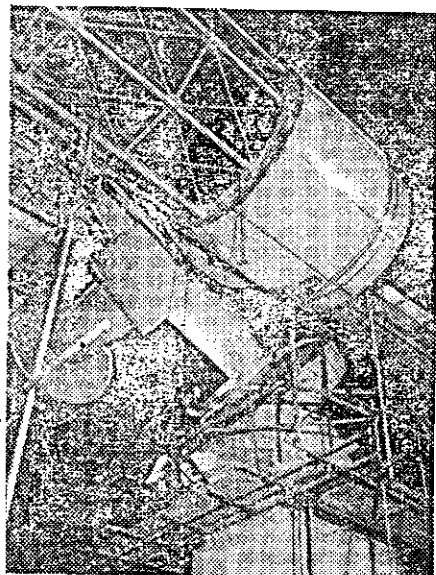
Looking up an oil-drilling derrick in Louisiana



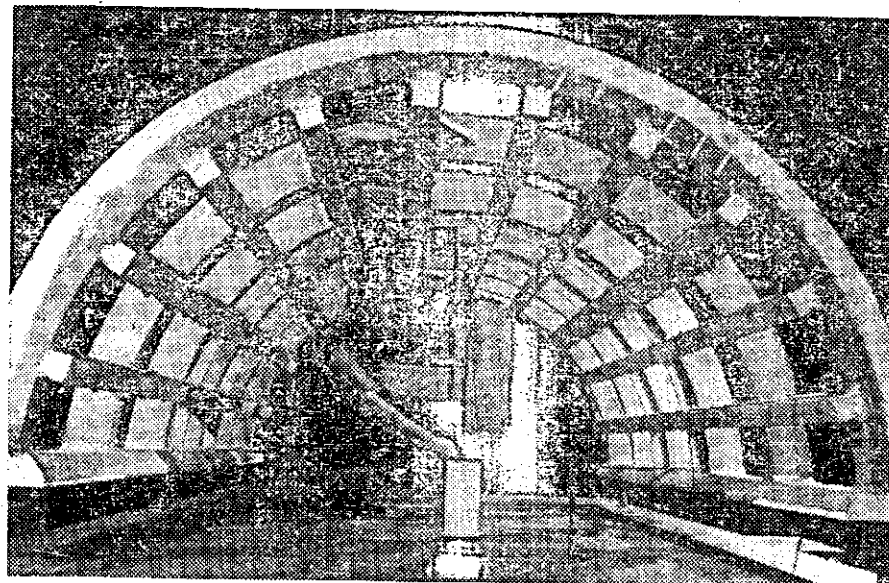
The iron mesh of a 13-foot concrete aqueduct



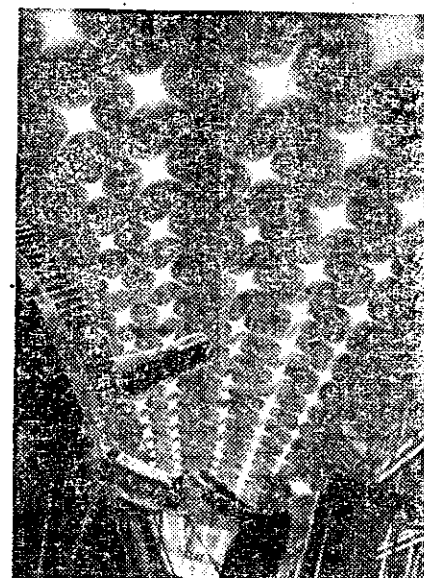
Climbing the framework of a new bridge pier



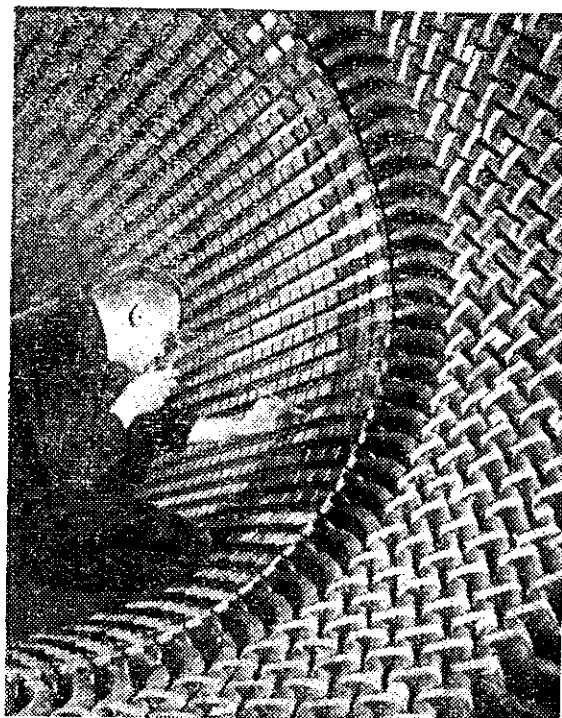
Erecting the big telescope in the Dome of Discovery for the Festival



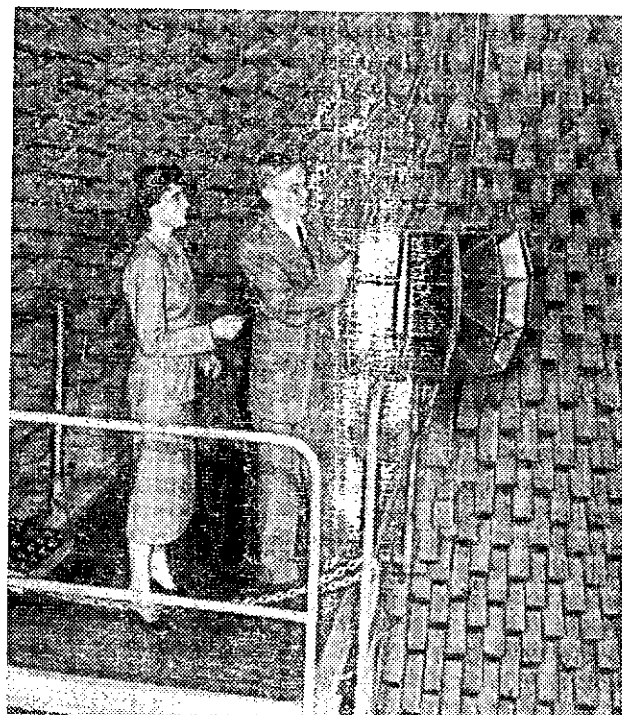
Taking measurements inside one half of the inner frame of a hydrogen-cooled turbine generator under construction



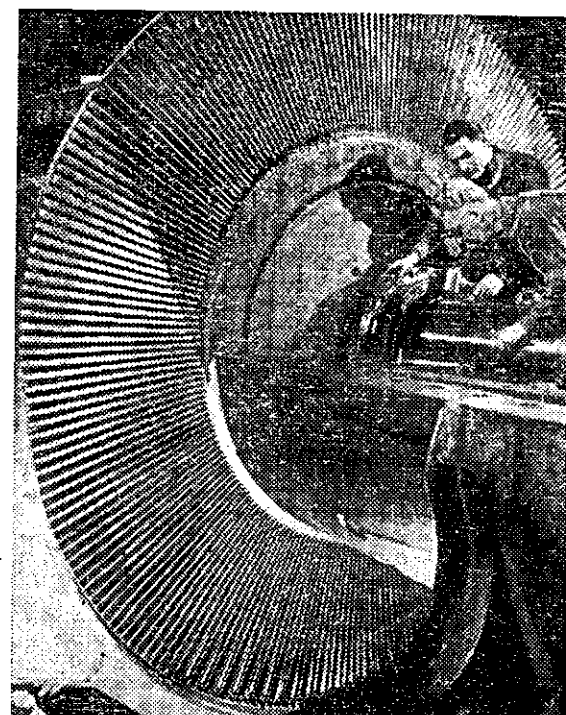
Rows of mercury-vapour lamps in the roof of an American factory



A "dynamo doctor" uses a medical cystoscope to examine the insulation in a big generator



Fibre glass wedges line the walls of a non-echoing chamber in which acoustical experiments are made



Workmen checking the bearing alignment of the rotor of a 60,000-kilowatt steam turbine



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars · London · EC4

MARCH 10 . . . . . 1951

## CHILDREN FIRST

A FUND started to help the world's children in dire emergency looks like becoming a permanent organisation of good will among the nations; and one in which all can join without conditions or reservations. That is the happy position of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, which has just voted nearly £300,000 to save children from hunger and disease.

There is £80,000 worth of rice for 300,000 children in India. There is equipment for hospitals in Siam. There is extra food for Greek children. Yugoslavia is to have £120,000 worth of food to build up the strength of mothers and children who suffered in the drought of last year. Palestine gets money for its refugees.

These are projects which breathe life into cold and impersonal initials like UNICEF, and keep alive our hopes of international meetings. For the children of the world are the responsibility of all mankind.

## TIME-MACHINE

SOME year or two ago the C.N. was speculating on the possibility of an airman winning the race against Time.

The realisation of this has been brought a stage nearer by Sqdn-Ldr Callard and his companions in the Canberra. They lunched in Ireland and landed in Newfoundland while it was still lunchtime. They were nearly fellow-travellers with the sun.

Soon, we may be sure, an airman will touch down in America, check his watch with the airport clock, and find that he has arrived before he left Europe!

## Under the Editor's Table

IT is distasteful to whisper in public. And unnecessary in private.

IF a ball arrives in your garden its ownership remains with the original owner. But he can't play with it.

THE LCC will not be responsible for things lost in schools. Especially time.

A MOTHER wants to know what she can do when her little girl looks defiant. Give her a kind look.

## BILLY BEETLE



PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO  
KNOW

If fiction writers  
have novel ideas

IN America people play golf by floodlight. Makes them shine.

RAILWAY workers are asked to report every dirty railway carriage they spot. They must not spot the clean ones.

# The Editor's Table

## Where man's spirit is free

ENCOURAGING words for the free world were spoken recently by the American Ambassador, Mr Walter S. Gifford.

"The free nations," he said, "possess a great superiority in manpower, skills, shipping, and industrial production. According to the best information available, the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation produced last year five times as much steel as the countries of the Soviet bloc in Europe, three times the amount of coal, five times the amount of electric power, and six times the amount of petroleum. . . . Finally, the North Atlantic countries have an estimated population of 330 million as opposed to 280 million in Russia and its eastern European satellites."

Mr Gifford pointed out that the sense of responsibility of the individual citizen constitutes one of the main sinews of democracy.

## CHEAT!

NOR long ago a racing pigeon, number N U R T B A 2455, was found in an express train on its arrival at Euston Station, London, from Barrow-in-Furness.

No doubt it cocked its head on one side and gave the sort of artful smirk that pigeons give when they have "pulled a fast one." For surely idle Nurtba must have been intended to fly to London, not go there by train.

It is really nothing to coo over. What would become of pigeon racing if all birds were so lazy?

Perhaps Nurtba might reply that pigeons could travel much longer distances by such intelligent methods. Taken to New York, for example, Nurtba could return in the *Queen Elizabeth*, hide in someone's car to London, and make a short flight to Euston to await the next train back to Barrow-in-Furness.

## GODDESS OF THE ARTS

IT is appropriate that this head of the goddess Minerva, with the arms of the City of Bath beside it, should be the symbol of this year's Bath Assembly. For the figure is closely connected with ancient Bath.

Two thousand years ago the Romans had a bronze head of Minerva as a decoration of their swimming bath at Aquae Sulis, as they called this place of warm springs, and this, in perfect



condition, was unearthed nearby 200 years ago.

Minerva was a patron of the arts and crafts, and the modern Bath Assembly is a festival of the arts. It is being held from May 20 to June 2 and will be an outstanding contribution to the Festival of Britain. Items of special interest will be an international film festival for children, and an open-air demonstration of the history of sport and dancing.

## The greatest of these...

Is the lovely old English word *charity* out of fashion? Mr Justice Vaisey thinks it is and would like to have it back again—in its true sense. He would put back the word *charity* into the Revised Version of the Bible in place of *love*.

The judge is saddened by the fact that so many people use the word *charity* in derogatory manner. He wants to restore *charity* to its old and respected place among the great words of our language, and he hopes that the inquiry into charitable bequests which is now proceeding will help.

## IN THE VALLEY

IN this Valley our Lord formerly had his country house; he loved much to be here; he loved also to walk these meadows, for he found the air was pleasant.

Besides, here a man shall be free from the noise and from the hurrying of this life. All states are full of noise and confusion, only the Valley of Humiliation is that empty and solitary place. Here a man shall not be so let and hindered in his contemplation, as in other places he is apt to be. This is a Valley that nobody walks in but those that love a pilgrim's life. And though Christian had the hard hap to meet here with Apollyon, and to enter with him a brisk encounter, yet I must tell you that in former times men have met with angels here, have found pearls here, and have in this place found the words of life.

John Bunyan

## Schools in the front line

"THE response of the country to the supreme challenge of our times depends ultimately on the courage, stamina, and good sense of all our people."

These words were spoken to an audience of parents and boys by the Headmaster of King Edward School, Birmingham, who pleaded that in the economies to be made in our national expenditure the schools should be spared.

Mr Howarth sees the schools in the front line as much as factories, workshops, and parade grounds. What comes from the schools will decide our future. Classes now are too large, and teachers have too much to teach. To economise now on education would be a fatal blow to our national well-being.

## INTERNATIONAL HOME FOR STUDENTS

IN a street not far from Hyde Park there is a remarkable new international home for overseas students studying in London. Two of the huge houses there have been taken over by the Methodist Missionary Society and made into a delightful home-club-hotel for African, Indian and Burmese students who find London rather a lonely and formidable place.

Hindus, Moslems, and Buddhists sit together in the handsome lounge, and there are always British students in residence, too; and this means that many of the overseas visitors are invited to British homes, which is their heart's desire.

This fine new venture of good will rose out of the enthusiasm of Miss Hilda Porter, and it deserves the good wishes of us all.

## Message of spring

I CANNOT tell what you say, green leaves,  
I cannot tell what you say;  
But I know there is a spirit in you,  
And a word in you this day.

Charles Kingsley

## THINGS SAID

HAVE we realised what a great life is ours, what a wonderful world we live in, and how good God is and how, when we are at our highest of goodness and service, we have only got a spark of His life and love?

Dr Scott Lidgett, aged 96

IF we could once persuade all nations that the enormous power of nuclear forces is far too dangerous to be let loose on the world again in an explosive way, we should find that nuclear forces could be a very powerful help to mankind.

Sir John Cockcroft

IN Melbourne I saw a barrow boy selling cabbages advertised "with hearts as big as Freddy Brown's."

Sir John Barbirolli

DUE to the conditions of the country roads I will trade a good automobile for a horse and buggy and one bale of hay.

Advertisement in an Indiana newspaper

## Trailing clouds of glory do we come

OUR birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;  
The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
Hath had elsewhere its setting  
And cometh from afar;  
Not in entire forgetfulness,  
And not in utter nakedness,  
But trailing clouds of glory do we come

From God, who is our home:  
Heaven lies about us in our infancy!  
Shades of the prison-house begin to close

Upon the growing Boy,  
But he beholds the light, and whence it flows,  
He sees it in his joy;  
The Youth, who daily farther from the east  
Must travel, still is Nature's priest,

And by the vision splendid  
Is on his way attended;  
At length the Man perceives it die away,  
And fade into the light of common day.

Wordsworth

## JUST AN IDEA

Uneasy lies the head that wears a frown.



## OUR HOMELAND

In the village of West Stafford, near Dorchester

From the King's England volume of Dorset, published by Messrs Hodder and Stoughton



# LEARNING TO BE A FARMER

## (3) Spring sowing follows tillage



Sowing on a farm at Guildford, Surrey

Last month, with the frost still in the ground, the author explained how the farmer busied himself on hedges and ditches. This month he takes us with him on the first sowing of oats.

How the farmer utilises one crop to give protection to a following crop will be dealt with next month.

By the time Ian had finished hedging on Grove Farm the ground was free of February frosts and it was not long before the March winds dried the soil sufficiently to permit of work on the land.

After breakfast on the morning that oat sowing began, Mr Waring, the farmer, and Ian went out to the field to see how the work was progressing. Ian was rather taken aback at the number of machines all working in the one field, until the farmer took him in turn to each one and explained exactly what it was doing.

"What we are trying to do, Ian," he said, "is to produce what we call a tilth—that is, we want to make the soil fine and loose so that the young plants will take root easily in it. We produce a tilth by a number of operations.

"First of all we break down the plough furrows which, as you see, are fairly loose and crumbly after the frost. For that we use a machine called a cultivator.

"You can, of course, see how the long, heavy spikes dig down about nine inches into the soil and stir it up, completely destroying the plough furrows

and leaving the soil fairly well broken up.

"After the cultivator comes the harrow, which is really just a very light cultivator. Although there are more spikes on it, they dig only a few inches into the soil and their purpose is to break up any lumps that the cultivator may have left.

"On loose, sandy soil like ours, one cultivating and one harrowing leaves the land ready for sowing the seed, but on sticky, clay soils the farmers often have to cultivate and harrow the soil many times before it is fine enough."

"I suppose that's the machine you use to sow the corn with?" asked Ian, pointing to what looked like a long box with a wheel at each end which was being drawn across the field by a tractor.

"Yes, that's right," said the farmer; "let's go and have a look at it."

"This is what we call a combine seed drill," he explained when they reached the machine. "It not only sows the seed at the correct depth in the soil but it also places a narrow band of fertiliser alongside each row of seeds so that it will be right there next to the young plants when they begin to grow. This is much better than the old system of first sowing the seed and then scattering the fertiliser all over the field, making the tiny rootlets grow out and 'look' for their essential food."

Ian, who was examining some of the seeds in the combine drill, suddenly exclaimed: "Look, Mr Waring! What's this red

powder on the grains? Is it some sort of disease?"

"No," said the farmer, laughing; "on the contrary, it's something to prevent diseases called smuts which attack oats and wheat, causing a great loss in yield. Scientists discovered that the disease was passed on from year to year on the surface of the grain. They produced this powder which we dust on to the seed before we sow it, and it kills off the disease before it gets a chance to attack the plant."

"How did they sow the seed before all these machines were invented, Mr Waring?" asked Ian.

"They simply scattered seed by hand on to the ploughed land and then drew the harrows over it to cover it," replied the farmer. "That method was not so good, because some seed was buried too deep and some was not buried at all and the birds ate it, with the result that a lot of seed was wasted. In the old days they used to have a rhyme that went something like this:

Plant four seeds in a row,  
One for the pigeon, one for the crow,  
One to rot and one to grow.

"If we are to believe the rhyme, only one seed in four ever grew to be a plant, whereas nowadays we try to make sure that every seed we sow will grow into a good, healthy plant."

## Iceland turns on the steam

IN October 1949 the CN described how hot water was brought to Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, from volcanic springs eight miles away, and stated that engineers had already begun to drill into Mount Hekla in search of steam power to provide electricity for the whole of Iceland.

Their efforts were crowned with success—they "struck steam"—and today from the blue basalt rock 700 feet down a jet of steam projects itself 250 feet into the air from a hole no bigger than a soup plate.

It must have been alarming

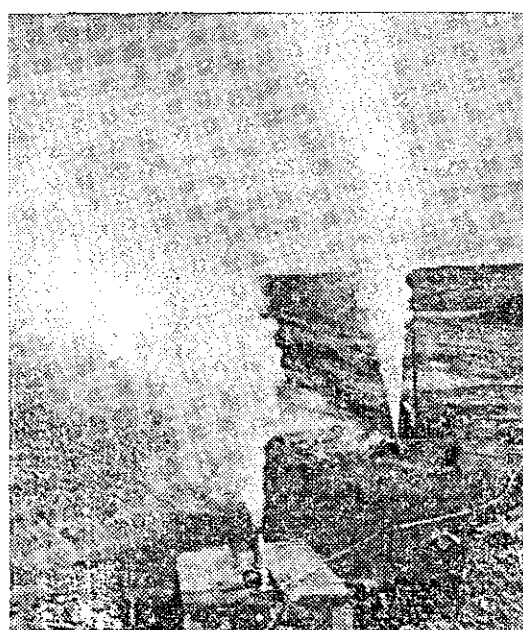
when the drills released the powerful head of steam. "We heard a roaring noise beneath our feet like the sound that precedes a volcanic eruption," said the engineers. "For a few moments we were rooted to the spot. Then we ran—and only just in time, for the steam jet shot up with such power that it flung the one-ton drilling machinery high into the air so that in crashing it smashed through a concrete bed two feet thick!"

It is estimated that this one jet

will provide enough electricity for a medium-sized town, and the engineers are now working out plans for controlling the flow of steam and harnessing it to power-house dynamos.

"We are a poor country," they say. "We have no coal, no oil, no timber. We've harnessed waterfalls, but they don't provide enough electricity for our growing industry, so now we must utilise the volcanic steam that is stored away in the bowels of the earth."

Power plants harnessing to volcanic steam already operate in Italy and New Zealand.



Steam gushes from the earth

CN ASTRONOMER WRITES OF VENUS AND OF...

## Saturn seen without his rings

THE planets Venus and Saturn are the leading luminaries of the evening sky now that Jupiter has vanished far beyond and behind the Sun.

Venus in the west is unmistakable, her silvery radiance far more brilliant than any other celestial object. She is just now at a distance of about 160 million miles, and therefore still very far away from us.

But she is rapidly approaching, and in a couple of months will be only 100 million miles distant. Venus will then appear much higher in the sky and be visible until nearly 11 p.m., whereas now she sets at about 8.30.

Her apparent size, too, will have grown considerably from an almost circular disc to a gibbous shape of much greater brilliance.

In the evening of March 10 Venus will appear a little way below the crescent Moon, the two luminaries presenting a fine spectacle in the sky after sunset.

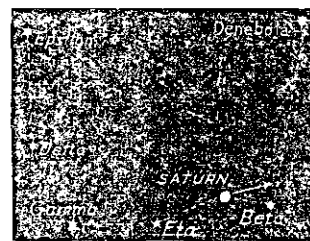
Saturn, still rather low in the eastern sky until a late hour, rises at about 6.30 p.m., but is not easily seen until about an hour later. Then he will be readily found in the constellation of Virgo, the Virgin, a little to the east of the fairly bright star Beta, as indicated in the star-map.

The map also shows four of the other chief stars of Virgo, together with Denebola, the bright star at the tip of the Tail

of the Lion. As the planet is slowly travelling to the right towards the star Beta, no doubt need remain as to which is Saturn. At present he is 790 million miles distant and almost at his nearest to us for this year.

The lack of brightness in Saturn, as viewed with the naked eye, is due to the fact that his famous Rings have now almost vanished. They appear only as a very thin luminous line extending across his disc and some distance beyond to the extent of nearly two-thirds of his sphere's diameter.

As seen through a telescope at the present time Saturn appears



to be the most singular object in the sky, with his satellites extending on either side like luminous beads detached from the ends of the line of light.

The line is becoming thinner, and by the middle of May it will be scarcely perceptible except with high telescopic powers. Then the Rings will be presented almost edgewise, and it may be realised how relatively thin they are—probably not much more than 100 miles—in comparison with their vast surface.

Saturn will by then be high in the south-east sky, and only a little way above the star Beta, as shown by the arrow on the star-map. But we shall then see Saturn at his faintest for 14½ years, owing to the apparent absence of his luminous Rings.

After May they will begin to open out again, though to only a very small extent for this year. Thus more and more of the north side of these wonderful Rings will be presented to view, until in 1958 they will again be open at their widest.

Then Saturn will be seen by the naked eye to be at his brightest.

G. F. M.

## MODEL PLANES AT THE FESTIVAL

THIS is to be a great year for makers of model aeroplanes, for there are more than 50 major trophies to be competed for. All the events are organised by the Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers.

The most interest will probably be created by the Festival of Britain National Model Flying Championships, held at Wembley Stadium on July 21. Here aeromodellers will fly their miniature planes, controlled by steel wires, in eleven contests; for speed, aerobatics, and team racing.

In many other places, however, people will be able to see or take part in model flying at its best. At the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, the British team for the Wakefield Contest in Finland, recently

described in the CN, is to be selected on June 10.

Among other events will be a meeting at Langley, Buckinghamshire, on May 13 and 14; a rally at Fairwood Common Aerodrome near Swansea on August 5 and 6; and races at Fairlop Aerodrome, Essex, on September 30. The United Kingdom International Challenge Match at Heathfield, near Prestwick, Scotland, on October 7 will be the first of its kind ever held for teams representing England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

The Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers consists of some 400 clubs with nearly 10,000 members. It began with the Kite and Model Aeroplane Association, founded in 1909.

## LAST WEEKS of the Great CN Writing Test!

ARE you in the great CN National Handwriting Test of 1951? These are the last weeks of this grand competition, and from all parts of Britain the entries are pouring in. The Closing Date is Saturday, March 17, and all entrants should therefore see that their completed entry forms are handed in at school without further delay.

The £600 Prize List includes CASH PRIZES FOR BOTH SCHOOLS AND PUPILS, as well as 1500 Consolation Prizes. In addition, 10,000 Awards of Merit will be given.

Teachers are asked kindly to remember that while each pupil's attempt will be judged as an individual effort, all papers must be returned together as the school's total effort. Also, every entry form returned must be completed by the addition of a Token cut from any current issue of the CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, in accordance with the rules. The last date for entries is

Saturday, March 17.



## Brighter shoes for us all

**MEN'S** pastel-coloured shoes with such names as Pine-apple Yellow, Buttermilk, Carissima, and Hydrangea Blue will soon be appearing in the shops. The woman behind this "brighter shoes" movement is Miss Doris Goodman, of Northampton.

She wants to see men wearing green or red shoes with tweeds. Another of her ideas—wearing navy blue shoes with a navy blue suit—has been adopted by one of the leading men in the firm which employs her.

With 20 years' practical experience behind her, Miss Goodman is the only woman shoe-designer in Northampton who knows how to make a shoe right through, as well as create the fashion. She designs and makes her own shoes, and has only one complaint about them—they last too long!

The shoe industry has to look a long way ahead, and of the many sample shoes prepared, only a percentage are selected. At present Miss Goodman has about 50 sample shoes ready for submission, but only 15 to 20 will reach the production stage.

Miss Goodman gets her inspiration for shoe designs from everyday life. The neck-line of a dress and a church window gave her ideas for shoe-fronts, while the attractive-looking strap of a tan-and-navy shoe she designed was suggested by the handle of an attaché-case!

## COIN CARGO

**A**n unusual cargo recently came into London Docks, when the French motor-vessels *Havrais* and *Carentan* arrived with 350 tons of nickel coins from Le Havre.

These coins had been issued in 1946 in Indo-China, but the present Government there having no use for them shipped them from Saigon to Le Havre, whence they came to London to be melted down at the Royal Mint.

Simpson was the youngest of seven sons of a baker, and it soon became evident that he was exceptionally clever. Realising this, his brothers and father willingly stunted themselves so that James could have a good education.



## Pioneers 46. JAMES SIMPSON, conqueror of pain

The sacrifices were repaid in full. Graduating at 21, James became a famous physician, and at 24 was made Senior President of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh—very high honour indeed.



Sulphuric ether had been used to make patients unconscious while being operated upon. Simpson searched for a more efficient anaesthetic, and he and two assistants tried chloroform on themselves. It proved most effective.

Then came a great battle against prejudice: the use of chloroform was widely denounced. But Simpson stood his ground and the new anaesthetic came into general use to the lasting benefit of mankind.



## BALKAN-JI-BARI CELEBRATES A JUBILEE

Few children in Britain can have heard of Balkan-ji-Bari, but to the young people of India it is a familiar and well-loved name. It means Children's Garden, and is the name of India's most influential and best-organised society devoted to children's welfare.

This is Balkan-ji-Bari's Silver Jubilee year, and for CN readers it is pleasant to think that Arthur Mee, the founder of their paper, helped to inspire this great Indian movement.

The Father of Balkan-ji-Bari was an idealist of Sind who as a boy read the CN and the *Children's Encyclopedia*. When he grew up he was bewildered at how little was done for children in his own land. A sensitive and poetic soul, he thought of a child as the most beautiful thing in God's creation. He believed that this human flower should grow up in joy and freedom, and when he had a daughter of his own, he resolved to make her the first flower in an Indian Children's Garden.

"Dada" (elder brother), as he afterwards became known, wrote to Arthur Mee outlining his ideas, and Arthur Mee replied: "I am delighted to feel that we share so much of the inspiration of life... It is far easier to build up the next generation

than to transform the present. We can have the Kingdom of Heaven in a generation by bringing up children to love good things."

Dada, whose real name is Shri Shewak Bhojraj, began by writing children's stories for the Sindhi papers, and also the favourite rhymes and folk-songs of Indian children, which were thus printed together for the first time. He interested grown-ups in his schemes for India's young people, and his Balkan-ji-Bari was founded in 1926.

It set out to establish children's parks and centres where they could go to listen to and tell stories, play freely, dance, have their own libraries, and work at their chosen hobbies, and from which they could be taken for

picnics, sight-seeing, and visits to museums, zoos, and so on. It resolved to promote and support all schemes for child welfare. For the leaders sincerely believe that it is through joy and freedom that children grow up to be good and patriotic citizens.

In 1933 the movement's own paper, *Gulistan* (Rose Garden), came out, and later it took for its emblem a red rose. Today Balkan-ji-Bari is an all-India society, and Dada's ideal of seeing children of all castes and creeds form one great brotherhood is beginning to be realised.

It co-operates with the United Nations and has contacts with children's organisations in other countries. It is a hopeful movement, as idealistic as anything in the Western World.

## FAST-FLYING FISH

**F**ISHERMEN on Australia's west coast have long been dissatisfied with the limited market for their catches. With the vast Nullarbor Plain separating them from the rest of Australia, it seemed hardly possible to expand their market without railway refrigeration trucks.

Recently, however, they have discovered a way of overcoming

the long and expensive rail journey. Fish landed at Perth in the evening have been snap-frozen, wrapped in Cellophane, and rushed to an Australian National Airways freight plane waiting at Guildford airfield. From there they are being flown 1820 miles to Melbourne, where they appear on sale before lunch the following day.

## Worthy Roll of Honour

**T**HE Women's Voluntary Services look after old people and children, carrying round "Meals on Wheels," and organising all sorts of other good schemes.

During the 1939-45 war 241 members lost their lives. In memory of these a beautiful Roll of Honour, illuminated on vellum pages and bound in red morocco, has just been finished.

Miss Claire Evans, WVS, who designed it and did the greater part of the work, is also a member of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators.

The Roll of Honour will be exhibited in London after it has been shown in different parts of the country, including Canterbury and Chichester Cathedrals. So many CN readers will be able to see it. They will admire the richly-coloured panel pictures of things that happened in the war, such as the WVS taking people with their bundles—and their pets—to a Rest Centre after an air raid; tiny children being taken on a railway truck—which they doubtless found rather fun; and an ambulance being driven along a rocky sea-coast road.

Every page indeed is full of interest and beauty.

## EXCHANGE

**F**IFTY girls averaging 16 years of age, chosen from schools across Canada, will visit Britain this summer under an exchange plan sponsored by Mr Garfield Weston, the Canadian-born industrialist.

Dr Muriel Roscoe, Dean of Women at McGill University, Montreal, will lead the Canadian group. A heroine of wartime secret service in France, Odette Churchill, will be in charge of the British party.

The exchange tours are planned to develop closer understanding between Britain and Canada.

## NICHOLAS NICKLEBY—New picture-version of Dickens's great novel (I)

When Nicholas Nickleby was 19 his father, Mr Godfrey Nickleby, a country gentleman, lost his fortune by speculation, and soon afterwards died. Nicholas, his mother, and

his sister Kate aged 17, who were now almost penniless, went to London sincerely hoping that Ralph Nickleby, Godfrey's brother, would come to their aid. Ralph

Nickleby was a rich, cunning, hard-hearted moneylender. He came to visit his relations in their lodgings in the Strand and soon showed he was not prepared to do much for them



Ralph showed Nicholas an advertisement for an assistant master at £5 a year wanted by Mr Wackford Squeers of Dotheboys Hall, where "Youth was boarded, clothed, booked... instructed in all languages, living and dead... writing, arithmetic, fortification and every other branch of classical literature..." Ralph knew Squeers, and said that Nicholas must take this job. He also said he would find employment for Kate.



Anxious to begin earning his living, Nicholas agreed to take the job, and he and his uncle went to see Mr Squeers, who was visiting London. For a schoolmaster he was an uncouth, ignorant person, but Nicholas did not know then that Dotheboys Hall was a school for unwanted boys, where there were no holidays. It was arranged that Nicholas should go with Squeers and some new boys by coach to Yorkshire next morning.



Nicholas's hopes of Dotheboys Hall were cruelly dashed when he got there. He found the boys ill-clad, underfed, cowed, and miserable. On his first morning he watched Mrs Squeers—as unpleasant a person as her husband—presiding over "brimstone morning." She made each boy swallow a spoonful of evidently very nasty-tasting brimstone and treacle. This "physicking" was intended to "purify their blood."



Next, Squeers demonstrated his "practical mode of teaching." "What's a horse?" he asked a boy. "A beast, sir," replied the boy. "So it is," said Squeers. "A horse is a quadruped and quadruped's Latin for beast... go and look after my horse and rub him down well, or I'll rub you down. The rest of the class go and draw water up till somebody tells you to leave off, for it's washing-day tomorrow, and they want the coppers filled."

Nicholas is thoroughly disgusted with this "school," but what is he to do? See next week's instalment





## THE GALLANT THIRD OF MILBOURNE

Grand new series of amusing school yarns

### Mutiny! (2)

Because of what they consider an injustice done to one of their number, Wheat Minor, certain members of the Third Form decide to mutiny. They appoint a captain and a mate; and call their "ship" The Good Intent. They determine to seek "harbour" in the miser's cottage on the other side of the Common. Undaunted by the fact that the Common is out of bounds to the lower school, they set off.

As soon as the seafarers reached Sheringham End it looked as if the weather was going to break. So deckhand Whitstable was sent ahead to the Common, not only to see if the clouds were worse there, but to make sure as well that no prefects were in the offing. He returned, out of breath, to report that the rain was beginning, which wasn't his fault, he maintained with a curious resentment, but also that he had spotted one of the prefects just pausing on the Common to put on his mac.

Which prefect was it?

So far as he could see, he said, from the distance it was Houghton Major.

Houghton Major! The snuffiest prefect of the lot. If he caught them on the Common they were dished. But on the other hand it was only by crossing the Common that they could ever reach the miser's cottage in time. So which were they to do? Abandon their promising venture? Or risk dodging Houghton?

As they crouched in their hiding place in the shrubs at the roadside it was their skipper who decided the course to be set. They must separate, he bade, as widely as possible and get across the Common, each man for himself.

But what was Wheat Minor to say if Houghton caught him?

This came tremulously from the cabin boy. Then his voice brightened. "I shall say that the miser is an old friend of my father, who had told me to look him up as soon as I could."

Reminded of his great aunt who had come from America in order to "lend him a hand in discovering treasure," they advised him to think up something better, but added the warning that if he gave them away, either to Houghton or Grimmett or anyone else, he should jolly well pay for it afterwards.

Thus admonished, their cabin-boy took to his heels in a flash, and pelted away.

But none of those other picked men would have turned back for anything. Why shouldn't they dodge Houghton Major? And why should they separate? It was raining so hard now that Houghton might have buzzed off. And, anyhow, the Common was wide enough, wasn't it?

Were they all agreed? Balmforth demanded.

"Ay, ay, sir!" they chorused once more.

So on they went in skirmishing

order, most cautiously, till the miser's cottage was presently sighted ahead.

It stood on a knoll with a pleasant view over the country, a pretty little house with a porch at the door and honeysuckle climbing up to its windows. No wonder, they thought, that the miser enjoyed living here! They could picture him counting his money bags every day with a chuckle as he took them back to their hiding, under one of the floorboards most likely.

Well, he needn't be afraid they were coming to rag him. They just wanted to see where he lived and ask how he was... Yes, that would be the polite thing—to ask how he was.

Then, according to Jellicombe, the miser would return the compliment by inviting them in to tea.

So they opened the gate and in single file went up the path to

—by—

### GUNBY HADATH

the porch at the door, where Balmforth was on the point of ringing the bell when they caught the sound of a window being opened above. So the miser had spotted them and was going to demand what they wanted?

Poitely, Balmforth stepped back and looked up at the window.

But the face which was regarding them from the window could have hardly been the miser's face. Indeed, those homely features were very familiar, and the voice which invited them in was familiar as well.

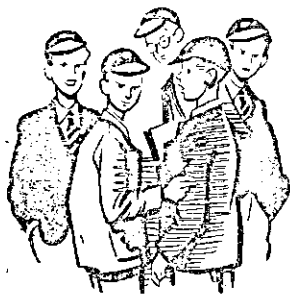
But this could not be real. They were dreaming. Oh, surely they must be! Old Maxton in the miser's cottage! Or Maxton's ghost!

### YOUNG QUIZ



1. Who was Alexander Selkirk?
2. Where is the Statue of Liberty?
3. What does "Eureka" mean?
4. Why are there discs on ships' mooring ropes?
5. Was William Tell a real person?
6. Who was the last Englishman to win the Lawn Tennis Singles at Wimbledon?
7. Terpsichore is: a lively song, the Muse of dancing, or a large fish?
8. Dickens wrote Nicholas Great —, Bleak —.

Answers on page 10



"Come along in," smiled the ghost. "The door isn't locked. Just give it a push, and step in."

He met them in the passage. "Sit down," he said, as he ushered them into the kitchen. "I spotted you coming across the Common, you know. I'm sorry that the miser has gone to Sheringham, but he gave me leave to shelter here if the storm broke. And it does look as if we were in for a regular downpour," he added. His visitors remained dumbstruck.

"But you're wringing wet," he continued. "Come and squat round the stove and dry yourselves a bit, won't you?"

Old Maxton addressing them in such commonplace tones! Old Maxton playing the host to their foundered ship's company! Would wonders ever cease? But that trite reflection did not help them at all in the fix they were in. For instead of abating, the rain poured down harder than ever!

It was all their skipper's fault, they reminded him crustily. He ought to have let them go back when Wheat Minor went back. Oh, yes, they assented, they had agreed to carry on, but any decent skipper would have turned back. Wouldn't he? they asked Pettifer.

"Of course," said the First Mate disloyally.

"But what I want to know," trembled Jellicombe, "is whatever can we do? We are bound to be late for roll-call unless we buck up."

In this bitter certainty they turned to old Maxton. Hadn't the miser a car or something? they asked.

"Not he!" said Maxton. "You wouldn't catch him bluing his money on petrol."

"But how do you know?"

"Because I've been here before. You don't suppose he'd have asked me in for shelter if I'd been a stranger."

"All right then!" snapped Pettifer. "Does he trot round always on foot?"

"Not he!" repeated Maxton. "He doesn't waste shoe-leather. But you know how famous Milbourne Town is for its junk shops! Well, he loves going there to poke round. So he borrows a lift from the carrier's van which passes the gate every afternoon in the week."

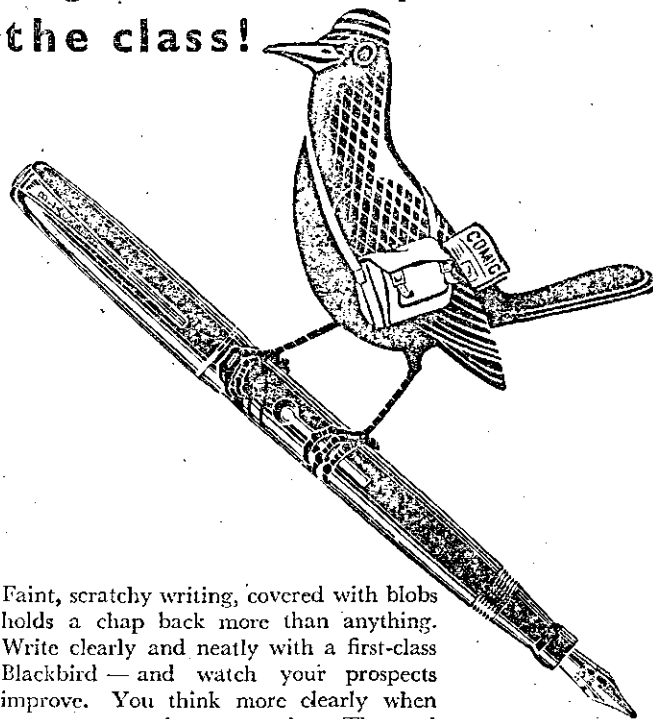
Maxton jumped up and went to the window. He watched for some minutes. Then "Here it comes!" he exclaimed. "I'll stop it."

So, deposing Balmforth, Maxton took command.

A big van it was, well covered against the bad weather, and happily they were able to squeeze themselves in; yet not before, less fortunate than the miser, they had paid a fare exacted by the gruff driver. But this new vessel, compelled to keep to the roads, could hardly be expected to make such good time as the gallant ship which had brought them.

Continued on page 10

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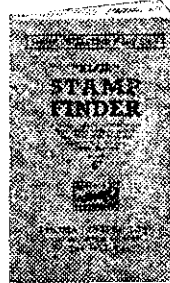
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## The Gallant Third of Milbourne

Continued from page 9

And now and then she stopped to deliver some cargo, or to pick up some freight (as Pettifer learnedly termed it).

Accordingly, it was not altogether surprising that the prefect who took roll on that memorable Wednesday proceeded to Mr Grimmert when he had finished. "Sir," he reported, producing a neat slip of paper, "these boys of your Third Form missed roll-call."

Had he taken their names to their Housemaster? Mr Grimmert asked instantly.

"Not yet, sir," answered the prefect, smiling a little. "Then leave it to me, will you, Travers? At present, at any rate."

"Yes, sir. Of course, sir," said Travers. And went on his way. For which of them would not have stretched a point for the Grim Bird?

And he, stalking forth, took post at once at the gates. Expecting to see his truants returning on foot, it amazed him to see them emerge from a carrier's van. But reserving his comments, he sent them off for a bath and dry clothes, with instructions to come to his study immediately afterwards and not to speak to anyone meanwhile.

Not without trepidation, they duly kept their appointment.

"And now," began the Grim Bird, "you will tell me why you missed roll call? What excuse do you offer?"

Their eyes went to Balmforth. It was up to their skipper to answer, as any skipper worth his salt must have done.

Nor did he fail them or falter as he recited the epic of *The Good Intent's* fated voyage.

"Indeed!" observed Mr Grimmert.

### BEDTIME CORNER

#### Mr Know-all

DENNIS was rather a clever little boy, which was not quite so fortunate for him as it sounds. For at his new school he found himself in a class with much bigger boys, and some of them were jealous of him. Especially a boy called Horace.

One day, when Dennis answered some questions Horace couldn't, he angrily nicknamed him Mr Know-all, and soon all the class called Dennis Mr Know-all.

This made him so unhappy that he tried to show he wasn't conceited about knowing things in class by offering to help when any boy had a puncture, or something else wrong with his bicycle. He offered to make them catapults, too, from sticks cut from the hedge round the games field.

But always they said: "No thanks, Mr Know-all. When we want your help we'll ask for it."

Then, one afternoon, when Dennis's class were putting on their coats on the veranda of the sports pavilion after

mett when it was finished. "And was your ship a schooner? Or was she a barque?"

"Sir, we never knew," Wheat said disastously.

"Oh! So you were one of her crew as well, were you, Wheat?" Mr Grimmert glanced at his list. "Yes, I see your name here. But I did not see you descend from the van with the others."

"Oh, no, sir!" said Wheat, looking horrified. "Because as the Common is out of bounds I refused to go any farther and turned back at once, sir."

"I see," observed Mr Grimmert, with singular dryness. "Yet I seem to recall, Wheat, that your exerts had been stopped for the rest of the term. But *fat justitia!* Friend Pettifer, kindly translate."

"Yes, sir," said Pettifer stoutly. "*Fat Justitia*, sir. That has something to do with justice."

"It has," Mr Grimmert assured them. "Perhaps if I translate it for you my point will be better appreciated. It means, Balmforth, 'let justice be done'; and, Balmforth, it will be."

The gallant crew of *The Good Intent* fully appreciated the point.

Another adventure of the *Gallant Third* begins in next week's C.N. Do not miss it.

### YOUNG QUIZ—Answers

1. British sailor who was marooned and thought to be the original "Robinson Crusoe".
2. New York Harbour.
3. "I have (found) it" cry of Archimedes on discovering method of finding alloy in King Hiero's crown.
4. To prevent rats climbing the ropes.
5. No.
6. Fred Perry (1934-35-36).
7. Muse of dancing.
8. Nickleby, Expectations, House.



football, something happened. Horace was showing round a fountain pen his father had just given him, when he dropped it, and it fell down between the floor-slats to the ground below. They could see it, but could not get their hands between the floorboards to reach it.

"What shall I do?" cried Horace. "There's no way of reaching it underneath the pavilion, either."

All kinds of ideas were tried without success.

"Perhaps," Horace said scornfully, "Mr Know-all can do something."

"I'll try, anyway," Dennis replied.

And, going to the hedge, he cut a thin, narrowly forked stick. This he poked down between the floor slats, and pressed the two prongs firmly on either side of the pen until they gripped it tightly enough for him to pull it up to safety.

Horace was quite overcome. "Thank goodness you are a Mr Know-all," he said. "But we'll never mean it unkindly again!" JANE THORNCROFT

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The Children's Newspaper, March 10, 1951

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## SPORTS SHORTS

THE great annual Calcutta Cup match between England and Scotland will be played at Twickenham on March 17. This, the rugby match of the season, will hold an added thrill for the thousands who will pack Twickenham, for if Scotland gain their first victory at the English H.Q. since the war they will draw level in the total of matches played, which at present stands at 28 wins for England, 27 for Scotland, with 10 drawn.

**NEVILLE GOTTING**, former Bombay University graduate, is now in this country, working as a chemist and fostering ambitions to make his mark as a hurdler. Last year he was runner-up in the All-India hurdles championship to Leslie Woodcock. Neville Gotting has joined Herne Hill Harriers and hopes to gain valuable experience on English tracks.

IN the Oxford University sports meeting no fewer than eight runners did the mile in under 4 minutes 35 seconds—first-class performances in conditions of wind and rain.

**JOHN MARSHALL**, Australian student at Yale University, broke his own swimming record for the 500 metres free style by 10.6 seconds. He covered the distance in 5 minutes 43.7 seconds.

IN a Wolverhampton Amateur League football match the ball burst after 20 minutes' play. A second ball was obtained—and burst after half-time. With ten minutes left to play a third ball burst and the game had to be abandoned—no more balls!

THE choice of Dudley Nourse as skipper of the South Africans in this country is a most popular one. This stocky son of one of the greatest of all South African batsmen has now appeared in 19 Test matches against England, scoring six centuries. He and his men are sure of a great welcome when they arrive in this country.

**MISS JEAN QUERTIER** is now covered courts champion of both Britain and France, for in the French finals recently she won the singles, the mixed, and the women's doubles.

## Anemones from the West Country

MORE anemones have been grown in the West Country during the past few months than ever before. This flower of rainbow colours, which brightens so many winter days, has now become firmly established in Cornwall, Devon, and Somerset. During the war the growing of anemones practically ceased, for it was impossible to get the corms from abroad; but today there are about 500 acres of anemones in Cornwall, nearly 300 in Devon, and about 75 in Somerset.

Many millions of bunches are sent to the cities; one London wholesaler takes as many as 1000 boxes in a day, each with 12 or more bunches. The railway authorities are to introduce new and better methods for carrying flowers, so that they will arrive fresher.

This big industry might not have come to the West Country but for the enterprise of a private Cornish gardener, Canon Boscawen. Spending a winter in

## Secret revealed by chance

EXACTLY a century ago on March 9 there died a man for whom the claim could be made that he laid the foundation stone of what has since become a most important industry—electrical engineering. He was Hans Christian Oersted, born on the Danish island of Langeland in 1777, the son of a chemist.

Having acquired the rudiments of an education in which self-help played the major part, he entered Copenhagen University at 16, and remained until he had attained distinction in medicine, surgery, philosophy, chemistry, and physics.

While there he made the first classification of earths and acids, and later was a pioneer in the study of alkalis and acids liberated by the action of electric currents.

Oersted believed that electrical and magnetic forces were akin, but for long could not prove it. It was in vain that in his experiments he sought to induce a current in a wire placed near a magnet or galvanic battery.

### The needle moved

At last he chanced to raise his electric wire above, and parallel to, a magnetic needle, and to his surprise and joy saw the needle instantly deflected, a characteristic repeated as often as he now deliberately tried it. This event, occurring in 1822, opened a new world to science, and Professor John Tyndall described Oersted's finding as the greatest ever obtained by an experiment.

From the evidence of that experiment Michael Faraday, the famous British scientist, went on to achieve marvels with currents engendered by magnets in adjacent electric wires. The electromagnetic field of research from which developed the gigantic generators converting energy into power for the world's work, all dates back to the fruits of the Danish professor's experiments at Copenhagen University.

Oersted's experiments were simple in the extreme, but the outcome brought about a revolution, both in theory and practice in every branch of mechanised industry.



Where the Knight wasn't protected

THE medieval knight had full armour from head to foot. But there was a chink in that armour. He had no Macleans Peroxide Solid Dentifrice (like you have) to protect his teeth from stain and decay. He had no dentist to advise him to Maclean his teeth night and morning. Today we know this is the secret of a healthy mouth . . .

Arm yourself to the teeth with...

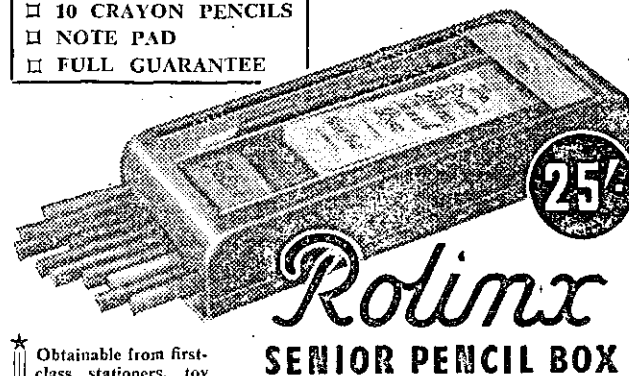


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## THE BRAN TUB

### His ambition

THE young man seeking a job was granted an interview with the manager, and after the usual preliminaries was asked if he had ambition.

"Oh, yes, sir!" he replied. "I shall never rest until I get you out of your seat."

### Inferior rowing

BRAGGED an oarsman who hailed from Nigeria, "I'll row right across Lake Superior."

When far from the bank, His boat foundered and sank, For his rowing was very inferior.

### Farmer Gray explains

The Black Rat. "What is it?" whispered Ann.

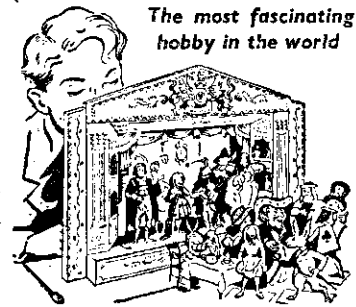
"Sh! You'll scare it," Don warned. As he spoke the creature ran nimbly up a wall of the old barn and vanished among the rafters.

"It was like a small rat, but its fur was a bluish-black colour," Don told Farmer Gray.

"It was a black rat, or Old English rat," replied the farmer. "Black rats arrived here about the end of the thirteenth century, four hundred years before the brown species. Black rats are about fifteen inches long, eight inches of which is tail. They do not burrow quite as much as brown rats, but climb even better."

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## Jacko gets a Jack-in-the-Box



JACKO had been up to Town to buy a birthday present for Baby. He was sitting in the bus on his way home thinking of the possibilities of tricks the toy offered when the conductor came along. Jacko reached into his pocket for his fare, and, as he did so, joggled his box. Up popped the Jack-in-the-box straight into the conductor's face, nearly scaring the poor chap to death. And as Jacko ruefully remarked afterwards, having been ordered off the bus: "The conductor just wouldn't believe it was an accident." Perhaps the conductor was right!

### Do you know that . . . ?

For centuries the Chinese have used cormorants for fishing. The birds dive into the water, catch the fish, and return to the boat. They cannot eat the fish because a ring or strap around the throat prevents them from swallowing.

EXCEPTIONAL merino rams in Australia may grow as much as 40 lbs of wool, which is ten times the clip grown by the sheep initially imported into the country.

INHABITANTS of the coastlands of Peru, largely desert country, build their dwellings to protect themselves from the dry, sunny weather. They are so unaccustomed to rain that when there is a deluge they cannot cope with it.

DATES are the staple food of the people living along the banks of the Euphrates and Tigris.

THE smallest principality in the world is Monaco. It covers just over a square mile and includes the towns of Monaco and Monte Carlo.

### Hidden flowers

THIS puzzle-square contains the names of ten flowers to be seen in almost any garden. They have been spelled partly across the square and partly down.

P E T U L U M  
A O N N I P I  
N S Y R A I N  
D E L D S T E  
R U P A H L R  
O S H I N I U  
M E L O X A M

Answer next week

### Both ways

THERE are certain sentences that can be read backwards as well as forwards. Probably the best known are these two, the first being Adam's supposed remark to Eve, "Madam, I'm Adam," and the second Napoleon's statement: "Able was I ere I saw Elba."

Many other sentences can be made reading backwards and forwards; making up these sentences might be made into a party game. Here are two other examples:

Stop Rose. I prefer pies or pots.  
Draw no dray a yard onward.

### Which town is this?

My first is in sun but not in moon,  
My second's in flower but not in bloom,  
My third is in rivet but not in bolt,  
My fourth is in pony but not in colt,  
My fifth is in London but not in Bath,  
My sixth is in roadway but not in path,  
My seventh's in candle but not in glow:  
This Wiltshire town you're sure to know.

Answer next week

### Helpful

THE small man was directed to the only vacant seat at the cinema, only to find he was sitting behind a man of immense proportions.

"Can't you see?" asked the big man in answer to the little fellow's protests. "Just keep your eye on me, then, and laugh when I laugh."

### Skeleton proverbs

PUT in the missing letters and form well-known proverbs. Each dash indicates a dropped letter; there are no spaces between words:

H-n-s-y-s-h-b-s-p-l-c.  
H-w-o-o-s-b-r-o-i-g-o-s-s-r-o-i-g.  
A-t-t-h-n-i-e-a-e-n-n.  
F-i-t-e-r-n-e-w-n-a-r-a-y.

Answer next week

### Countryside flowers

BUTCHER'S Broom, or Knee-holly, is a much-branched, spiny, bush-like plant, usually found in woods or on bushy waste-land. Its tiny, greenish-white, six-petalled flowers grow singly from the centre of the sharply-pointed, tough, green leaves. The flower's unusual position is due to the fact that



these are not true leaves but flattened stalks, botanically styled cladodes.

The handsome scarlet berries which follow measure about one-third of an inch in diameter. Butchers once used sprigs of this plant to brush their blocks.

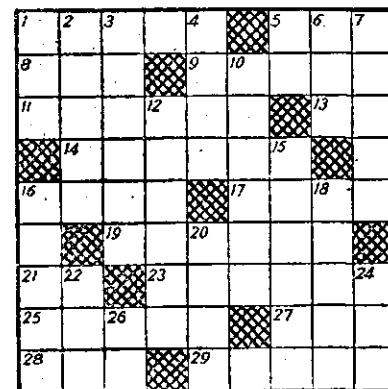
## Crossword puzzle

Reading across: 1 A tree. 5 Spoil. 8 Pig's home. 9 Statue. 11 The Royal Family live in one. 13 For example (abbrev). 14 Rat. 16 Volcanic mountain in Sicily. 17 The last. 19 Wrench. 21 French for and. 23 One who counts. 25 Pursue. 27 Mineral. 28 A number. 29 Strong point.

Reading down: 1 Small snake. 2 Begin. 3 Tall slender structures. 4 Pleasant. 5 Mater (abbrev). 6 Grow old. 7 Royal. 10 Of the mind. 12 Modifies. 15 He makes clothes. 16 Choose. 18 Without power of movement. 20 Rocks dangerous to sailors. 22 Definite article. 24 Riddle-me. 26 Indefinite article.

Answer next week

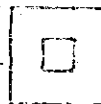
The Children's Newspaper, March 10, 1951



### Last week's answers

#### Puzzle of the squares

The diagram on the left shows how we get the two complete squares which do not touch each other



#### Riddle in rhyme

A thorn

#### Hidden names

Mandolin, clarinet, cornet, violin, viola, trumpet, piano, guitar, piccolo, banjo.



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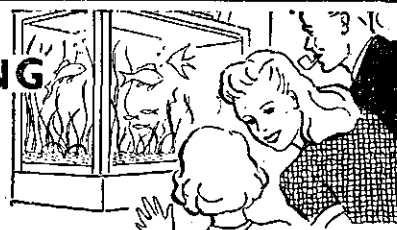
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